

William Spencer Hall

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JOHN F. HOPKINS was born October 4, 1821, in Marion county, Ohio; he died at Madrid, Iowa, April 19, 1909. His father, Robert Hopkins, was a veteran of the war of 1812 and a member of the General Assembly of Ohio. His early educational advantages were meagre, but he was a great student and gained a wide knowledge through reading, experience and observation. In 1849 he made an overland trip to California, where he remained two years. He removed to Iowa about 1854, settling in Boone county. Mr. Hopkins represented Boone county in the House of the Thirteenth General Assembly and was instrumental in securing the appropriation for the present State capitol. He was for six years a member of the board of supervisors of Boone county. He was a member of the Pioneer Lawmakers' Association, of the Octogenarian Association of the State, and took a prominent part in the organization of the Old Settlers' Association.

JOHN DAVID NICHOLS was born in Leeds county, Canada, July 22, 1834; he died at Vinton, Iowa, June 20, 1909. When a boy he was apprenticed for seven years to a wagon maker. Finishing his trade before his time had expired, he purchased his release, and was for a time a sailor on the lakes. He studied for the ministry, and was ordained and preached for several years. He came to Henry county, Iowa, in 1857, where he resided until 1863, when he removed to Urbana, Benton county. In 1870 he removed to Vinton, where he studied law with Traer and Galchrist, and was admitted to the bar in 1872, forming a partnership with Robert St. Clair. He remained in active practice until 1897, the later years of which were in partnership with his son. He served as school director and as mayor of Vinton, and was a member of the Iowa Senate from Benton county in the 17th, 18th and 19th General Assemblies.

WILLIAM SPENCER HALL was born in Sutton, Merrimac county, N. H., April 8, 1823; he died at Onslow, Iowa, April 8, 1909. His boyhood was spent in Michigan and he received his education in the Kalamazoo branch of the University of Michigan. In 1841 he came to Iowa, settling in Dubuque, where he engaged in mining for three years. He removed to Cascade in 1844, and entered the mercantile and real estate business. After a residence of thirty-three years in Cascade, in 1877, Mr. Hall removed to Onslow, Jones county. He served for twelve years as postmaster of Cascade, from 1848 to 1860, and in 1854 was elected representative of Dubuque county in the Fifth General Assembly, and also served in the special session of 1856.

CAPT. MILTON P. RUSSELL was born in North Salem, Hendricks county, Indiana, September 25, 1836; he died in Oakland, Cal., July 2, 1908. He enlisted in the 51st Indiana Regiment October 11, 1861, as a private, but was soon elected first sergeant. He later became First Lieutenant and afterwards Captain. He was in the battles of Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Stone River, and commanded the forces that opposed Mosby. He was captured in May, 1863, and put in Libby prison, from which he escaped through the tunnel. He was recaptured, but later succeeded in getting away. He was discharged May 11, 1865. Soon after the war he removed to Iowa,

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